

HERE TO STAY HERE TO FIGHT!

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THE 15 MOST ESSENTIAL LEFT-WING SKINHEAD ALBUMS

By DJ Marvelous Hagler
RASH-NYC

Some people will say I have tremendous balls for putting together a list like this. After all, isn't music subjective? Who am I to say what albums should matter most to anti-fascist and class struggle skinheads?

Obviously, this list is just my opinion on the matter of left-wing streetpunk. These are the albums that keep me shaving my head and sticking to the cause. They capture in music and message what it means to be a RASH skin. And let's face it, would any of us stick to this hardcore lifestyle if it didn't have such a great soundtrack? I thought not!

So, without further adieu, here's the list...

#1 THE OPPRESSED "Music For Hooligans" LP (Step-One)

Not only is this one of the greatest comeback albums for any band in the history of music, on this slab of vinyl the Oppressed take their militant anti-fascist message to the next level. Every track has something urgent to say, and the music is pure impact. This is the unofficial soundtrack for hardcore Leftist streetfighters- taking the battle to the boneheads, the cops and the rich! Nice one lads!



#2 THE CLASH- "The Clash" LP (CBS)

Okay, this isn't necessarily a skinhead album per se but I've never met a left-wing skinhead that didn't worship the Clash. Plus, the impact this album had on the entire punk movement was monumental. Without it, there would have been no socialist rebel punk bands (THE ANGELIC UPSTARTS, THE REDSKINS, THE NEUROTICS, THE

RUTS, etc.), there would have been no "punky reggae" crossover and there would have been no Oi!. We can thank the Clash and this first album for all these things. And Paul Simonon use to be a skinhead back in the Trojan days, so I guess that DOES make it a skinhead album.

#3 THE REDSKINS "Neither Washington Nor Moscow" LP (Decca)

This album came out of left field (no pun intended). At a time when the skinhead scene had been taken over by glue sniffing National Front boneheads, the Redskins reacquainted true skinheads with soul music, style and class-struggle politics. Musically, they're probably the most talented skinhead band ever, incorporating punk, soul, rockabilly and more. This album is so good, we can even forgive them for the sectarian party dogma and Chris Dean's corny quiff haircut (subsequently copied by a generation of French anti-fascist skinheads). Let's get this situation sorted out!

#4 THE BLAGGERS ITA "Bad Karma" LP (EMI)

This pick may raise a few eyebrows, because a lot of skinheads hate this album. I, however, love it. It incorporates elements of rap, includes samples, DJing and even dance music. And yet, their message is as sharp as ever. On this record, red skinheads evolve into anti-fascist casuals and get even more outlaw, with anthems on rioting, nightclubbing and stealing cars. This should have been the soundtrack to the French film LA HAINE.

#5 THE PRESS "Punks and Skins Vol. 5" split LP
(Oi! Records)

The Press hold a special place in my heart because they were the first American Oi! band, and they kick total ass. Not only did they hail from NYC, but their message was staunchly anti-fascist (at a time when it mattered!), they were allied with the SHARP movement and their singer was an open red skin. Most of all, their lyrics accurately captured the frustration of being a working stiff in the Big Apple. I'll still love this record when I'm 80. Oh, and the RADICTS side is pure gold as well.



#6 OI POLLOI "Punks and Skins Vol. II" split LP
(Oi! Records)

Before they got into all that Stonehenge "earth magic" crap, OI POLLOI were a brutal streetpunk band best represented by this LP. "Rich Scumbag" is one of the most powerful class struggle fight tunes ever. This is an album for righteous acts of violence- make no mistake about it.

#7 THE OPPRESSED "Oi! Oi! Music" LP
(Oppressed Records)

Even with the cheesy electronic drums, this album is a champion. Every skinhead loves this record, even if they don't agree with our politics. Tracks like "Joe Hawkins", "Skinhead Girl", "Ultra Violence" and "Urban Soldiers" make it a pure classic. Their "Dead And Buried" LP is also a standout, but I think this is the better of their two old-school LPs.

#8 THE BLAGGERS "On Your Toez" LP (Oi! Records)

I remember when this record came out in the late 80's, it was the only contemporary (at that time) streetpunk album most reggae loving skinheads would listen to. One side politics from the street and one side fun. Songs about fighting at soccer, Northern Ireland, jail, being a rebel, fighting in the streets and militant anti-fascism. Even a track that pays homage to the 1960's skinhead film "Bronco Bullfrog"! What more could you ask for?

#9 THE CLASH "Black Market Clash" LP (CBS)

Their best "punky reggae" album. Lots of '77-style punk classics ("The Prisoner", "Capitol Radio One", "Cheat") and lots of heavy, heavy dub reggae. Even has their standout cover of TOOTS AND THE MAYTALS "Pressure Drop". As always, the message is on target. A lot of people won't get no justice tonight. Don't push us when we're hot!

#10 BLAGGERS ITA "United Colors of Blaggers ITA" LP
(Words Of Warning)

The Blaggers evolved musically on this album, and Anti-Fascist Action (UK) got a soundtrack. Watch footage of AFA's "Battle of Waterloo" victory and listen to this record at the same time. You'll see what I mean. Music for the street-fighting years of the early 90's. It's up to you! Mensi from the ANGELIC UPSTARTS even does a cameo.

#11 THE ADJUSTERS "Before The Revolution" CD
(Moon Records)

Socialist mods from Chicago that stood by RASH's side when no one else would. They will always get props for that. Plus, they're incredibly talented song writers and musicians. They know how to play soul better than anybody! It's a crime that this record did not sell millions of copies.

#12 ZAKARAK "Larga Vida" LP

Even if you don't understand Spanish, the anthems from this Basque anti-fascist skinhead band will have you singing along. If the Cockney Rejects had lived in Bilbao, they'd have sounded like this. Pure party drinking music with a great message.

#13 THE CLASH "London Calling" 2LP (CBS)

The Clash soften and diversify their sound a bit, but not without great results. Classics include "Guns of Brixton", "Rudie Can't Fail", "Jimmy Jazz", "Spanish Bombs", "Revolution Rock" and more. Really heartfelt stuff that corresponded with their takeover of America.



#14- KORTATU "A Frontline Compilation: Rock In The Basque Country" LP

Again, an album that is great whether or not you speak Spanish. This band had a tremendous effect on establishing the worldwide Spanish-language "Rock Radical" scene. KORTATU played raw punk and ska with fightback lyrics. They also ensured that there would be red skinheads throughout Latin America and Spain for a million years to come. This is frontline music for sure. I didn't even know what a Basque was before Kortatu.

#15- ERODE "Orgoglio Proletario" demo

Italian reds with a thugrock sound, this album is all about working-class pride. I think ERODE are a bit Stalinist politically, but GOD DAMN this is a powerful release. As heavy as a DM to the breadbasket!

HONORABLE MENTIONS

It seems insane that I wouldn't have any ANGELIC UPSTARTS records here, but that's mainly because I don't think they had any releases where every song was a standout anthem. Rather, almost every one of their releases have a few singalong classics, some good/ okay tracks and one or two shitty ones. One of these days I'll make an UPSTARTS mix tape that will blow people's doors off.

I would list the Italian band NABAT, but I only have some of their songs on comps and EPs. They too are classic. Perhaps when I get the loot to pay import prices, I'll bump them up the list.

THE STRIKE released two excellent records, "A Conscience Left to Struggle..." and "Shots Heard 'Round the World", that are loved by all. Unfortunately, they're were only 15 spots available, and I tend to favor bands with more of a bootboy attitude.

The same can be said for Italy's BANDA BASSOTTI. Two great albums. Now if they'd only had some songs about fighting, beer, crime, girls and soccer, they may have been #1.

Finally, the STREET TROOPERS "Take The Battle To The Streets" is an Oi-core! classic. It's a bit amateurish and raw, but powerful as a .44 mag. If they had stayed together long enough to release a 2nd LP, it's no doubt they'd be near the top of the list

ONE FINAL NOTE

Yeah, I tend to favor bands that sing in languages I understand (English and Spanish). Sorry! I guess that's because the message is as important to left-wing skinheads as the music. I'm sure there are lots of great bands out there that sing in tongues I don't comprehend, and maybe one day I'll get turned on to them. That's what makes this scene so much fun.



THE PORTLAND SKINHEAD WAR

Militant anti-fascists in the United States who have the cable channel A&E (Arts and Entertainment) should be on the lookout for the Portland, Oregon episode of "City Confidential". The show covers the November 13, 1988 murder of 27-year-old Ethiopian immigrant Mulugeta Seraw by three white supremacist boneheads, and the resulting civil trial (brought by the Southern Poverty Law Center) against Tom Metzger. Metzger was, and continues to be, the head of the Fallbrook, CA based racist group "White Aryan Resistance" (W.A.R.).

Metzger and W.A.R. are significant to the skinhead scene not because they were responsible for importing the bonehead style to the U.S.A. (boneheads came over in the late '70's and early 80's with punk rock), but rather because they were the first to organize nazi skinheads into some form of fighting network (in this case "W.A.R. Skins" and the "Aryan Youth Movement/ White Student Organization").

Metzger sent his bonehead field organizer Dave Mazzella to Portland to help organize a drunken mob of about 30 boneheads called "East Side White Pride" (ESWP). Mazzella was famous for appearing on the Oprah Winfrey show, and because he was featured in Rolling Stone magazine's "Skinhead Nation" article back in 1988. Metzger flooded Portland with far-Right propaganda, and attempted to mold the already violence-prone ESWP into fascist foot soldiers. A wave of violent attacks on people of color, gays, lesbians, leftists and anti-fascist skinheads resulted, culminating in the murder of Seraw by boneheads Ken "Death" Mieske, Kyle Brewster and Steven Strasser. The three were drunk, coming from a party when they attacked Seraw and caved in the side of his head with a baseball bat for no good reason. All three boneheads were eventually convicted. Mieske got life in prison, while the other two got 20 years each for manslaughter.



Ethiopian immigrant Mulugeta Seraw murdered by boneheads on 11/13/88

However, the murder seriously tarnished the liberal image of Portland, and it became known nationwide (however undeservedly) as a town that was a haven for white supremacy (the ADL called Portland "the skinhead capital of the United States"). This had the inevitable effect of a migration of white power boneheads to Oregon. At the time (1988), I recall hearing that there were approximately 300 nazi skinheads in Portland and the surrounding suburbs. That number may not seem like a lot, but as all militant anti-fascists know, boneheads are capable of starting trouble well beyond their numbers.

Enter Morris Dees of the Southern Poverty Law Center/ Klanwatch. The Center brought a wrongful death civil suit against Tom Metzger on behalf of Seraw's family. Dees argued that Metzger was civilly responsible for Seraw's death because he had ordered Dave Mazzella to Portland to organize boneheads into fighting formations. The fact that Dave Mazzella flipped sides and testified against Metzger certainly helped Dees' case. After two weeks of testimony the jury came back with a guilty verdict, awarding a \$12.5 million dollar judgement against Metzger.

The "City Confidential" show is narrated by Paul Winfield who is most famous for playing a Starfleet captain in "Star Trek 2: The Wrath of Khan". The show is pretty inane pop culture (complete with bad jokes), but features some interesting interviews with ex-boneheads and anti-racist activists from Oregon. Plus, the period footage of late 80's skinheads is essential (including some video clips of Portland SHARP at an anti-bigotry rally). This program is worthwhile even if all it does is remind our movement of its own history.

One thing the Portland skinhead war did generate is lots of media attention. Some of the more memorable material includes:

PBC COVERAGE OF THE METZGER TRIAL

During the trial, PBS did extensive day-to-day coverage hosted by uber-liberal Bill Moyers. Most of the coverage was footage from various witnesses testifying on the stand, which was then chopped up and analyzed by a team of high-powered attorneys. Mainly, these shows were worth watching for the cross-examinations of various West Coast boneheads. They were pretty dim bulbs. It was also pretty funny to watch Metzger try and defend himself in court in front of a black judge.

SKINHEAD STREET GANGS BOOK

An interesting book that came from this period in Portland's skinhead history is "Skinhead Street Gangs" By Loren Christensen (Paladin Press 1994). This book is a classic, and belongs in the library of all anti-fascist skinheads.

Christensen was a cop involved with Portland's anti-gang unit (the "Gang Enforcement Team"), so the book is offered as expert advice on "the skinhead problem" to police agencies in other states. It has the viewpoint you'd expect: all skinheads are bad and must be kept off the streets. For the most part, the book is sensationalistic, hilarious and probably will do a lot more to inspire skinheads of all stripes to break the law than to straighten up (I know I'm working hard on getting my nefarious acts listed in any revised editions that might come out!). Tales of skinheads beating up cops, trashing cop cars, rioting after drunken parties, pulling drive-bys, etc.

The main reason I recommend the book is that it covers anti-fascist skinheads (called "SHARPS" throughout) as being equal, if not more of a problem, than boneheads. This is thanks to the fact that the old Portland SHARP chapter (circa 1989-1993) were what you would call "proactive" and deserve a good deal of respect for their trailblazing anti-fascist militancy. It's hard to imagine a book on skinhead gangs written today even mentioning anti-fascist skins, let alone equating us as a more violent threat than boneheads.

Finally, anti-fascist skinheads should read the book to understand what the police are thinking when they try and stop us from clearing our name. There is considerable discussion of tactics used by law enforcement to contain the skinhead scene, to disrupt skinhead crews from functioning, how to effectively interrogate skinheads, etc. We must be aware of the traps law enforcement has set for us in their desire to stop us in our war against fascism and the rich. Without a doubt, we will be printing choice excerpts from "Skinhead Street Gangs" in future issues of **HERE TO STAY- HERE TO FIGHT**.

THE LIBERAL ANTI-FASCIST POINT OF VIEW

Morris Dees, the head of the Southern Poverty Law Center/ Klanwatch, wrote a book on the Seraw murder and the subsequent civil trial brought against Tom Metzger. Called "Hate On Trial" (Villard Books 1993), I picked it up used for a few bucks. It represents the liberal anti-fascist viewpoint on the entire situation. There's some useful factual information in this book, but it should mostly be read by militant anti-fascists as a model of everything we **SHOULDN'T** do in our fight against the far-Right.

Mainly, the book is self-congratulatory, as if suing Tom Metzger actually stopped the white supremacist movement dead in its tracks (rather than transforming Metzger into a persecuted folk-hero). While I'm sure Morris Dees' court victory did quite a lot to generate revenue for SPLC/ Klanwatch (you should read the ridiculous praise from liberals on the dust jacket of the book!), I think it's ridiculous to believe that the Metzger lawsuit did anything but shift the balance of power to some new white supremacist group. Not that this matters much to the liberal anti-fascist industry.

Also, throughout the book, Dees repeatedly kisses the ass of state and federal law enforcement agents, as well as the court system as the only effective way to fight fascism (and you wonder why nazis have so much strength in prison!). It's clear that while he may dislike fascists, Dees thinks the status quo in America is just fine. His most biting commentary in this book is reserved for SHARP skins and Anarchists, who he portrays as mentally-unstable obstacles to the real anti-fascist fight. This position shouldn't surprise readers of Klanwatch's "Intelligence Report" magazine, as they regularly portray anti-globalization protestors and anti-fascist skinheads as confused collaborators with the far-Right. To quote a famous axiom, the "enemy of my enemy isn't always my friend".

AND FINALLY, ONE FOR THE GOOD GUYS: THE SHOOTING OF ERIC BANKS

Perhaps the closing chapter to the Portland skinhead war came on January 1, 1993 when members of SHARP got into it with boneheads in the parking lot of a gas station, and Eric Banks (one time singer of pioneer US bonehead band **BOUND FOR GLORY**) caught a round from an SKS to the head.

This incident was probably the last I heard of SHARP-bonehead confrontations in Portland, and it managed to make the national media via Time Magazine ("Skinhead Against Skinhead" August 9, 1993 pg.42). PBS even did a seven-minute video piece on SHARP vs. the boneheads on some nationally televised profile of Portland.

While some may not see gunning down boneheads as an appropriate way to fight fascism or to celebrate the New Year, you won't see me crying any tears for Eric Banks. Boneheads murdered Mulugeta Seraw, they murdered Guillem Agullo, Lin Newborn, Dan Shertsy and countless others. Eric Banks knew it was genocide that he advocated, and unfortunately for him one of his future victims didn't go down so easy. Let's hope that all boneheads meet a similar end.

IN CLOSING

Throughout the late 1980's and early 1990's, Portland represented the foremost battleground between militant anti-fascist skinheads and boneheads. As such, it included much of what we can expect if a more generalized struggle breaks out here in the US between far-Right boneheads and skinheads wishing to clear our name: the role of the State, the reaction of law-enforcement, the liberal anti-fascist response and the allegiance of our potential allies (the far-Left). Clearly, we should study the Portland example as the microcosm of what may be the shape of things to come.

Suspect in Skinhead slaying surrenders to authorities

Portland starts new year fast with first two homicides of '93

■ A Skinhead dies in a quarrel with a rival gang, and a young woman is found slumped in the wheel in a parked car

by HOLLY DANKS
The Oregonian staff

Portland's first and second homicides of 1993 came early into the new year Friday.

In the first, a 21-year-old Skinhead gang member was fatally shot in an altercation with a carload of rival Skinheads in Southeast Portland about 4 a.m. The second involved a young woman who was found about 10:30 a.m., shot in the head in a car parked outside a house in Northeast Portland.

Police questioned two men about the first shooting and later arrested one of them, Thomas Wayne Tegner Jr., 20, of 524 S.E. 136th Ave., faces accusations of hindering prosecution, conspiracy to commit assault and being an ex-convict in possession of a firearm.

He is lodged in the Justice Center Jail in lieu of \$15,000 bail. Police were still looking for one car involved in the shooting, a red Volkswagen Rabbit, and an unidentified man standing near the Volkswagen when the shooting occurred.

The Multnomah County medical examiner's office had not identified the dead man by Friday evening. Officer Henry Groepper, acting public information officer for the Portland Police Bureau, said the man had moved to Southeast Portland from out of state within the past few weeks and had no family in the area.

The results of an autopsy weren't available Friday afternoon, but Groepper said the man had been shot in the face with a large-caliber, semiautomatic "assault-type" rifle.

Police say the events began unfolding several weeks ago, when a dispute arose between the two groups. After talking on the phone, the Skinheads

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and the anti-racist Skinheads arranged to meet at Southeast 160th Avenue and Burnside Street to settle their differences early Friday morning, Groepper said.

Police said the victim and two 18-year-old Skinhead companions were riding in a blue Nissan.

They met five anti-racist Skinheads in a red Volkswagen Rabbit.

They exchanged words but didn't come to blows, according to Groepper.

The cars drove away, and the red VW pulled into the parking lot of the Minit Mart Quick Shop at 13076 S.E. Stark St., with the blue Nissan following.

The blue Nissan struck the rear left quarter panel of the red VW, though it was not clear whether it was an accident because of icy roads or an intentional swipe.

The red VW came to a stop behind the blue Nissan, police said. The victim, a Skinhead in the back seat of the blue Nissan, turned around to look in the direction of the VW and was struck by a bullet fired by someone outside the VW.

The Volkswagen died, and the Skinheads in the Nissan took the victim to Portland Adventist Hospital, where he was dead on arrival.

Police are seeking the red Volkswagen Rabbit, which reportedly has black bumpers and should have left rear quarter panel damage. They are also seeking the man standing next to the VW, who was described as 18 or 19, 6 feet tall, 155 pounds, skinny build, with a clean-shaven head.



TEGNER

Groepper said that although the group in the VW called themselves "anti-racist Skinheads," they did not admit to being members of Sharps, or Skinheads Against Racial Prejudice. Sharps oppose white supremacist activities, often through violent clashes against neo-Nazi Skinheads.

Groepper said the two racist Skinheads who were in the car with the dead man were too traumatized to give a clear account of the incident, who was involved and what led to it. Tegner and a 20-year-old companion believed to have been in the VW were questioned by detectives but weren't cooperating fully, Groepper said.

"Whenever you have violence in a gang situation, you always have the possibility of retaliation," Groepper said. Detectives hope that identifying who was involved and making arrests would defuse the tense situation, he said.

Tegner was arrested in 1990 and accused of beating two women in a convenience store in Portland's Hawthorne neighborhood, but the outcome of the charges against him was unclear Friday.

A 20-year-old Portland man rendered to police Saturday and is been accused of murder in the shooting Friday of 21-year-old Skinhead Erik Banks.

John Edward Blair, of 524 S.E. 136th, called the Portland Police Bureau about 5 a.m. Saturday and ranged to surrender to Gresham Police at East Burnside Street at Hogan Road in Gresham. He was taken into custody without incident by Portland Police detectives.

Blair, who claims to be an anti-racist Skinhead, was lodged without bail in the Justice Center Jail.

Police also recovered Blair's, and a semiautomatic assault-type rifle, believed to be the weapon used. Banks died of a gunshot wound to the face; he was declared dead on arrival at Portland Adventist Hospital shortly after the shooting.

Banks' family lives in Minnesota. He had an address in Tacoma and Portland address of 16124 S.E. Alder.

Police investigating the incident Friday arrested Thomas Wayne Tegner Jr., 20, of Portland, on charges of hindering prosecution, conspiracy to commit assault and being an ex-convict in possession of a firearm. He was held in the Justice Center Jail in lieu of \$15,000 bail.

Police say the killing was the culmination of a continuing confrontation between the victim and his companions and five anti-racist Skinheads. The anti-racist Skinheads did not admit to being members of the Sharps, Skinheads Against Racial Prejudice.

The groups arranged to meet to settle their differences, and shooting erupted at 13076 S.E. Stark St.

One of the cars fled the scene. Police questioned Tegner and a companion and arrested Tegner.

On Saturday, police interviewed and released two other persons who were at the scene of the shooting.

IN THE EYES OF A SKINHEAD, PORTLAND, Oregon, looks like the city of the future. Not that Loren Christensen would agree; the gang enforcement officer with the Portland police maintains that his town has "tolerance for different life-styles, as long as they're liberal life-styles. There's no tolerance for skinheads." Yet rival gangs of bald men with tattoos have now lent this chamomile-and-bean-sprout metropolis a Mad Max edge.

Until November of 1988 Portland had no more racist fanatics than any other Northwestern town. But when the East Side White Pride gang killed an Ethiopian student named Mulugeta Seraw and the murder made national headlines, about 200 skinhead newcomers flocked to the city.

Today it takes a keen sense of iconography to know the players. Like their cousins elsewhere, Portland's racist skinheads sport flight jackets, suspenders and Doc Martens with shoelaces in various colors: white for racial purity, red for the blood they are willing to shed and yellow as a signal they have shed someone else's. But another gang of skinheads is slightly different in appearance: the swastikas have diagonal lines slashed through them, and black-and-white breast-

SKINHEAD AGAINST SKINHEAD

pocket patches depict a crucified skinhead with the letters SHARP written over the top. These are the Skin Heads Against Racial Prejudice—the remnant, less prominent in other cities, of what was once a nonracialist baldie majority. The antiracists, says Christensen, "think the racists give true skinheads a bad image." And so they fight them.

When SHARP members started showing up in Portland, other liberal militant groups such as the gay organization ACT UP reached out to them but soon retreated. SHARP was intent on fighting fire with fire; soon rumbles ensued, and last New Year's Day, during a confrontation on a snowy street, they shot a racist skin with an SKS—a bayoneted, semiautomatic assault rifle similar to an AK-47. "They blew his head to smithereens," says Christensen.

Since then, he reports, antiracists have patrolled Portland's downtown area, "hanging around in coffee shops and occasionally jumping somebody they perceive to be a racist." Meanwhile, on the outskirts, the racists have been more active in the past seven weeks than they have been in years, attacking two blacks, two whites who associated with blacks, a gay and a Native American. —By David S. Jackson/San Francisco

MONTREAL MINDFUCK

What it's like to be an American RASH skin visiting Quebec's most famous city...

Traveling to Montreal as an American left-wing skinhead is a mindfuck. It's weird enough being in a place in North America where everyone speaks French. Going to a punk show there, you notice even bigger differences.

For one thing, most of the skinheads at shows there will be outspokenly anti-fascist (as opposed to this "non-racist, non-political" bullshit cowardice we get in the States). Second, there's a lot less of the hard-rocking, hard stares and factionalism that plague the larger skinhead scenes in the USA. There are no gangs as we in NYC know them. There seems to be a perception in Montreal that the enemy is OUTSIDE the scene, and everyone can have a good time when they're not fighting each other.

It is almost the norm for skinheads in Montreal to not only be anti-fascist, but to also be reds or anarchists. There are a lot of bootboys rocking red or black stars, fists, flags, etc. And they don't get constant shit from the larger society for being left-wing! Can you imagine a place where people don't have a shit-fit if you mention socialism and wealth redistribution? Americans freak out if you wear a Che Guevara t-shirt!

The scene in Montreal reminds me a lot of what I experienced visiting Madrid, and what I've heard about places like Paris and Rome. Places where red skins ARE the skinhead scene, and not just a committed but isolated faction. Can anyone in NY or the USA imagine what the fuck that's like? In our country, people shave their heads, put a flag and P.O.W./MIA patch on their green bomber and become overnight bigots. That describes 90% of the scene.

It's not that there aren't boneheads in places like Montreal, Madrid, Paris, etc. because there are. But they are OUTSIDE the scene. There is none of the right-wing middle ground found here in America. That must make life a lot less stressful.

FLIPPING

I did notice that in such scenes, there are people who "flip". One day they're a red skin and the next day a bonehead, or vice versa (or they go "non-political"). I've never heard of a red skin in the US becoming a bonehead. Maybe that's just sheer numbers- as there gets to be more of us, it will become more common (especially with really young kids). I hope not. There's something that makes me really happy about the fact that a red skin in the US who flips will get eaten by the wolves on one side or the other. No sellout!

THE BANDS

Finally, there are A TON of incredible bands from Montreal. The top-flight red skin and anti-fascist bands are FATE TO HATE (ex-STREET TROOPERS), JEUNESSE APATRIDE (Apathetic Youth), THE PROWLERS and ESCLAVES SALARIES (Wage Slaves). There are more, but I haven't heard them yet. Seeing these bands is the real headtrip. It made me so happy, I felt guilty! After a lifetime of a skinhead/ punk scene filled with bullshit and mediocrity, it was like being in heaven. But it's a heaven you know you have to leave. Ain't it fucked?



SOME RECENT RELEASES FROM THE MONTREAL SCENE

FATE TO HATE "Iron Fist" CD (Insurgence Records)
This is not an album for weak chumps, this is an album for warriors. Brutal skinhead hardcore in the vein of SICK OF IT ALL with right-on lyrics about the fight for social justice. This album is motivating, and has become amongst my favorites for working out to. FATE TO HATE recently got a new vocalist and I can't wait to hear their next release. Copies of IRON FIST are available from HERE TO STAY- HERE TO FIGHT for \$10 post-paid

JEUNESSE APATRIDE "Black Block 'n Roll" CD (self-produced)

Fans of early UK groups like VICE SQUAD, or fans of punk from France will both like this release. Heartfelt female vocals sung in French over straightforward punk. The song "I'll Be Your Friend" is fucking awesome. Not a bad early release, and I can picture these guys steadily improving. I would like to hear these guys on a more powerful 32-track recording. JEUNESSE APATRIDE is connected with RASH- Montreal. For copies of this release, email Jeunesseapatrie@hotmail.com

MERCHANDISE

NOW AVAILABLE FROM RASH-NYC

CDs

All CDs \$10 each post-paid (cheap!)

Angelic Upstarts "Anthems Against Scum" (Insurgence)-
The first Insurgence Records release, this album was recorded live in Germany. Includes all their hits. This collectors item album is out of print and WILL NOT be repressed. Supplies are limited, so hurry!

Blaggers, The "On Your Toez" (Mad Butcher)- This is it! Their classic redskin Oi! LP now available on CD, complete with their "Beirut" EP and "God Save The Cockroach" promo LP. For those who do the business!

Brigada Flores Magon (Insurgence)- Anarcho-syndicalist skinhead street rock as only these Paris boys can do it. The voice of true militants.

Fate To Hate "Iron Fist" (Insurgence)- This is a must-have record. Skinhead hardcore in the vein of SICK OF IT ALL meets the RASH mentality. Brutal music from the gritty streets of Montreal. If you don't like this record, you're a weak-ass chump.

Generatorz, The "Straight Outta Sin City" (KOB Records/ Mad Butcher)- Montreal punk rock for the punx and skins on the street.

Inadaptats- "Per Tots Els Mitjans" (Capita Swing)-
Street militant hardcore from Barcelona. Very political songs in a hardcore vein. Includes the song "Redskins", their ode to RASH.

Klasse Kriminale "Electric Caravanas" (Insurgence)- Italian streetpunk anthems in the vein of Sham 69. Tuneful Oi! with lots of singalongs for when you're drunk on red wine, and want to feel like you're somewhere other than your same old room. Even has a pretty punk girl on the cover.

Los Fastidios "1991-2001: Ten Years Tattooed On My Heart" (KOB Records/ Mad Butcher)-
A good overview of the output of this important Italian anti-fascist/ SHARP skinhead band.

No Good Heroes "Radio Rebelde" (Insurgence)-
Power punk for fans of STIFF LITTLE FINGERS and THE CLASH. Right-on politics as always.

Stage Bottles "I'll Live My Life" (Insurgence)-
A later-era effort from our friends from Germany. The quality you've come to expect.

Stage Bottles "1993-2001" (Insurgence)- A "Best Of" from this seminal German redskin outfit. Macht schnell!

V/A "Class Pride World Wide" (Insurgence)- The compilation that breathed new life into the redskin scene in North America! Music by the STREET TROOPERS, STAGE BOTTLES, REAZIONE, WORKER, REMENCES, THE OPPRESSED, BRIGADA, The BLAGGERS and more. You need this!

V/A "Class Pride World Wide Vol. II"

(Insurgence) -

21 bands from 14 countries representing the frontlines of RASH and militant anti-fascism!

V/A "Das ZK Empfiehlt: Sun, Sea and Socialism" (Mad Butcher)- International red-front compilation with all the usual suspects: ATTILA, The ADJUSTERS, LES PARTISANS, The NEUROTICS, The BLAGGERS, RED LONDON, The STRIKE, The STAGE BOTTLES, OPCIU K-95, etc.

V/A "Das ZK Empfiehlt: Wir haben eine Welt zu gewinnen (We Have A World To Win)" (Mad Butcher)-

Volume II of this international red-front compilation. LOS FASTIDIOS, BRIGADA, HEYOKA, SCRAPY, KLASSE KRIMINALE, Oi! THE ARRASE, etc.

V/A "Fear of a Red Planet" (Red Planet Records)-
1999 compilation to benefit the daily Morning Star newspaper in the UK (the UK's only socialist daily). Fucking brilliant comp with The ANGELIC UPSTARTS, RED ALERT, RED LONDON, ATTILA THE STOCKBROKER, THE INDESTRUCTIBLE BEAT (ex-Neurotics) and more. Essential!

V/A "Solidarity: A Benefit For ABC No Rio"

A compilation of 36 bands from around the ABC scene. Comes with a professionally printed booklet with a contribution from each band. Also features info on the history of ABC No Rio, Slug and Lettuce zine, and more. All proceeds to ABC Building Renovation fund.

More CDs available soon!

EPs

All EPs \$4 post-paid each

Brigada Flores Magon/ Opciu K-95 "International Socialism" split EP (Mad Butcher Records- Germany)
Brutal redskin Oi! from France and Spain.

Class Assassins "No Justice...No Peace" EP (Insurgence Records)
The latest from this Toronto streetpunk outfit.
Ex-members of VACANT LOT and DIRECT ACTION. Music for the kids.

Reazione "Indelebile" EP (Passatore Records)
Italian Oi! heavyweights sing about beer, tattoos and futbol. Features the bassist from KLASSE KRIMINALE.

Devilskins "Porca Troia!" (Passatore Records)



Swiss Oi! band featuring vocalist of ASOCIALE.

The Strike/ Dillinger 4 "Rebel's Choice" EP
(Doing It For The Kids)

2 tracks from the Minneapolis based red mod band, including a Tom Robinson cover. Dillinger 4 are Chicago punk.

LPs (as priced)

Banlieue Rouge (Mad Butcher)

A "best-of" collection from the first 4 LP's of this veteran Montreal red streetpunk band. \$10 each post-paid

Blaggers, The "On Your Toez" (Mad Butcher)

The German repress of their ground-breaking first LP. This was and continues to be a monumental redskin Oi! release. Young Blaggers blag on! \$12 each post-paid

Stage Bottles "Big Kick" (Mad Butcher)

One of their classic early LP's. German anti-fascist Oi! \$12 each post-paid

Street Troopers "Take The Battle To The Streets"
(Knock Out Records)

Their ultra-rare LP. North American bash-the-fash streetpunk. Try finding this LP somewhere else for this price! \$12 each post-paid

VIDEOS

K.O.B. Records Festival "1st K.O.B. Day" video

From a festival in Italy celebrating K.O.B. Records.

Includes the ANGELIC UPSTARTS, STAGE BOTTLES, KLASSE KRIMINALE, LOS FASTIDIOS, FFD and OVERSIGHT. \$15 post-paid

AVAIL "Live in New York City Sep 4-6th, 1997"

Filmed at Coney Island High, Staten Island and ABC No Rio. A benefit for the ABC No Rio Building Renovation fund. 70 min. \$11 each post-paid

PRINTED MATTER

ANTI-FASCIST FORUM #2, #3, #4

Sporadic journal of the now defunct Toronto-based group. Serious analysis from the North American frontline of the militant anti-fascist movement. Well-written articles for those with a brain! A useful introduction to the discussions we should be having. \$5 each post-paid

ANTI-ULTRA #6- Futbol hooligan zine of the Herri Norte Taldea (North People's Group), skinhead supporters of ATHLETIC BILBAO in Euskadi. Tales of their exploits. Great networking info. In Spanish. Includes free anti-fascist poster. \$3 post-paid

FIGHTING TALK #23, 24

Magazine of Anti-Fascist Action (UK). This group is a model for what should develop here in North America. What happens when the working-class starts beating up the nazis. Excellent coverage of the UK scene from those who do the business. \$3 each post-paid

RED ACTION- Vol. 4 #5,7,9- From 2000, the magazine of the infamous UK Marxist group. Very strong on militant anti-fascism and Irish repub-

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If you are interested in supporting RASH-NYC and "Here To Stay- Here To Fight" info- bulletin, a good way to do so is by buying this merchandise. All funds raised from sales go directly into RASH activities, and you'll get some top-knotch class struggle skinhead culture to boot!

licanism. This group was an important link in the history of redskins in the UK. The engine behind AFA. \$1 each issue post-paid

REDS SKINZINE #2- From Bari, Italy. Interviews with BARRICATA ROSSA, REAZIONE, COLONNA INFAME SKINHEADS and others. Strong soccer coverage. In Italian. \$3 post-paid

RESISTENCIA SKINHEAD #2 July 1996- Old school zine of RASH Madrid. Lots of coverage of RASH activities and European bands. In Spanish. \$2 post-paid

The Militant Tradition: Commemorating Canadian Volunteers of the International Brigades pamphlet

By Anti-Fascist Forum

The story of the International Brigades that fought against fascism in the Spanish Civil War during the 1930's. Specific focus on the Canadian Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion. \$3.00 each post-paid

OTHER MERCH

Insurgence Records die-cast metal lapel pin- features the Insurgence Records logo \$2 post-paid

Crazy Baldhead Sound System mix/ demo CD- The one we give out to get gigs and stuff. Comes w/ sticker, reviews, fliers, etc. \$5 ppd

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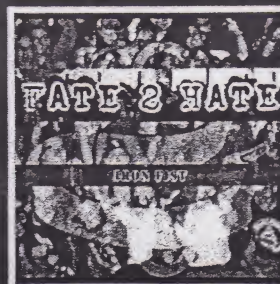
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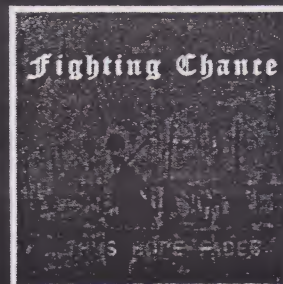
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CD IR 012

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CD IR 013

Fighting Chance - "Thus Hope Fades"

Bred on the streets of Baltimore, Fighting Chance hit the scene with their debut full length. Aggressive anthems that will remain in your head until they're good and ready to leave.

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Canadian distro: www.scratchrecords.com
US & worldwide: Cargo (1-800-40-INDIE)

MILITANT ANTI-FASCIST COVERAGE?

Unlike the original RASH UPDATE, you're not going to see much militant anti-fascist coverage in the pages of HERE TO STAY- HERE TO FIGHT. For one thing, the Internet is a much better medium for receiving this type of info. Second, there simply isn't a large fascist movement in the NYC area, and we're not going to pretend there is. Militant anti-fascism in NYC has succeeded in driving out overt fascist presences in most white working-class communities without very much of a fight. Now comes the hard part of actually organizing for the type of world we wish to see- building united working-class power and bringing communities together. That's what HERE TO STAY- HERE TO FIGHT is dedicated to. Filling the space we've won with ideas and culture for the future NYC, all from the perspective of class-struggle skinheads from NYC.

Occasionally, an article related to the militant anti-fascist fight in the Northeastern US will jump out at us. In such cases, we'll be running them in this bulletin. Our fighting network needs to remain vigilant!

From MRR #248

LOCAL PUNKERS, PHILLY SKINHEADS BRAWL

by Dave Wedge

A feud between a local punk rock group and a gang of Pennsylvania skinheads turned violent Sunday morning when one of the out-of-town party-crashers allegedly smashed a Somerville man in the head with a sledgehammer.

"It appears this was a house party, a group crashed the party and a fight ensued," Somerville police Lt. Paul Trant said.

According to police and witnesses,

members of the Keystone State Skinheads crashed a party on McGrath Highway about 4:30 a.m., sparking a brawl with members of the punk band, State Control, who were playing at the bash. Witnesses said a number of party-goers were bloodied, including one who was dragged down the stairs and hit in the head with a sledgehammer.

No one was arrested. The victim, Kevin Adams, was listed in stable condition last night at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Trant said the feud apparently began

Nov. 10 during a show at the Safari Lounge in Providence when two "punkers" and a "skinhead" had a fight outside the club.

"One of the suspects made a reference during the fight about (the Providence incident)," Trant said of Sunday's melee.

According to their Web site, the Keystone State Skinheads, based in Philadelphia, are a white power group that endorses violence against their enemies. Three members were charged in March with assaulting a black man with a brick in Scranton, PA.

MORE USEFUL U.S. & CANADIAN CONTACTS

Please note: Due to space concerns, the international contact list we promised last issue will be run in a future issue of **HERE TO STAY- HERE TO FIGHT**. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Against The Current
c/o Center For Changes
7012 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, MI 48210
www.solidarity-us.org
Excellent Left magazine, published bi-monthly by the Trotskyist group Solidarity. Nice layout and very readable.

Anarcho-Syndicalist Review
PO Box 42531
Philadelphia, PA 19101
syndicalist.org
The best US anarcho-syndicalist publication, hands down.

Collective Action Notes
PO Box 39521
Baltimore, MD 21212
Foremost council-communist publication in the USA. Coverage of class and workplace struggles around the world. A valuable resource for the radical working class.

Covert Action Quarterly
1500 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Suite 732
Washington, DC 20005
covertactionquarterly.org
Investigative journalism on what the other side (the State, the rich, the Right) are up to. Arm yourself with information!

Defenestrator
PO Box 30922
Philadelphia, PA 19104
defenestrator.org
Philadelphia Anarchist activist publication.

Discussion Bulletin
PO Box 1564
Grand Rapids, MI 49501
Print forum for debate amongst the anti-authoritarian, class struggle Left. The lack of graphics are more than made up for by the excellent discussions. I heard the editor recently passed away, so I'm not sure if this publication is still around.

Indyendent, The c/o NY-IMC
34 East 29th St. 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10016
www.nyc.indymedia.org
Independent, non-corporate news from a Left and social justice perspective. Very useful for activists.

Kick It Over
PO Box 1836
Guelph, Ontario N1H 7A1 Canada
Social Anarchist magazine with thought provoking articles. A little too pacifist for our tastes, but good none-the-less

Labor Notes
7435 Michigan Ave.
Detroit, MI 48210
Best coverage of trade union struggles in the USA. A bit unglamorous, but recommended to all class struggle skinheads.

Profane Existence
PO Box 8722
Minneapolis, MN 55408
profaneexistence.com
The cream of the North American anarcho-punk crop. Essential.

Rattlesnake
2822 Folsom St.
San Francisco, CA 94110
Really thick anarcho-syndicalist journal. Very text-heavy. Could use some editing to make it more accessible.

Slug And Lettuce
PO Box 26632
Richmond, VA 23261-6632
Long-running political punk networking zine. Lots of opinions, news and contacts.

Social Anarchism
2473 Maryland Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21218
socialanarchism.org
An Anarchist journal of "theory and practice", published annually. Very intellectual writing. More likely to appeal to college professors than bootboys.

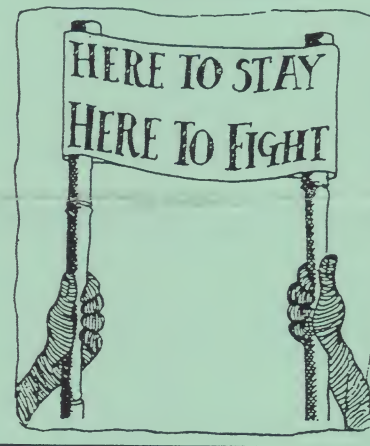
Stormwarning/ VVAW-AI
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Seattle, WA 98111-3604
www.oz.net/~vvawai
Anti-imperialist paper and group run by Viet Nam vets. Loosely affiliated with the Revolutionary Communist Party, a Maoist organization.

Z Magazine
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www.zmag.org
Foremost independent U.S. radical Left magazine. Excellent writing. Recommended.

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Radical art and comics. Each issue features a theme. Fucking excellent.

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PRINT REVIEWS

WORKERS SOLIDARITY

Vol. 1 #1 Feb-April 2004 \$1
Workers Solidarity is the new newsletter of the Workers Solidarity Alliance, a United States Anarchosyndicalist organization we mentioned last issue. It's 8 pages of news cover mostly trade union struggles and workplace organizing, obviously issues important for class-struggle Anarchists. We recommend this zine to all in the USA.
WSA 339 Lafayette St. Rm. 202, New York, NY 10012 wsany@hotmail.com

GAME OF THE ARSEHOLES #7 \$1

If you like obscure snotty old-school punk from countries like the UK, Sweden, Japan and the USA, then this zine is right up your alley. It contains grad-school level writing from an obvious linear thinker, and includes lots of Top 10 lists. It's nothing more than an intellectual circle-jerk for people who think modern music started with DISCHARGE. I guess I fall into that category. #7 is devoted to classic Britpunk. GOTA PO Box 511, Whippany, NJ 07981-0511

Next issue:

-RASH-NYC Political Education Program
-NYC revolutionary and skinhead history
-Anarchopunk



BAKUNIN WEIGHS IN ON THE "NEW YORK" QUESTION...